

**Madison Station Historic Preservation Commission
Minutes of the March 11, 2020 Regular Meeting**

The meeting convened in the Madison Municipal Complex, Planning and Building Conference Room, 100 Hughes Road, Madison, Alabama 35758. Commission Chairman Charles Nola called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Attendees

Commission Members

Charles Nola, Chairman	Present
Cindi Sanderson, Vice-Chairman	Present
Larry Anderson, Historic Liaison	Absent
Elbert Balch	Present
Gerald Clark	Present
Cindy Sensenberger	Present
Dennis Vaughn	Present

City Staff

Mary Beth Broeren, Director of Development Services and Board Secretary

Registered Public Attendees

Mark Harris, Liz Vaughn, Erin Ruch, David Roden, Todd Seaton, Jamie Golliver

Public Comment

Chairman Nola opened the floor to public comment for non-agenda items. There being no public comment, Chairman Nola closed the floor to public comment.

Approval of minutes

Chairman Nola asked Commission members for suggested changes or corrections to the draft minutes of the January 8, 2020 Regular Meeting. Ms. Sanderson noted one correction to the spelling of her name. There being no further changes or corrections, Chairman Nola called for a motion.

Motion: Dennis Vaughn moved to approve minutes of the January 8, 2020 Regular Meeting, as amended. Elbert Balch seconded the motion and the vote was as follows:

Final Vote:

Elbert Balch	Aye
Dennis Vaughn	Aye
Larry Anderson	Absent
Charles Nola	Aye
Cindi Sanderson	Aye
Cindy Sensenberger	Aye
Gerald Clark	Aye

Motion Carried**Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness**

The following Applications for Certificates of Appropriateness were presented for public review but not for public hearing or comment.

1. COA-2020-002, 4256 Sullivan Street, New House

Staff introduced the request and provided photographs of the property, proposed elevations, a site plan, and information regarding colors and materials. The applicant stated the house will fit in with the homes that have recently been constructed to the north and south of the property.

Motion: Dennis Vaughn moved to approve case number COA-2020-002, 4256 Sullivan Street, as presented. Cindy Sensenberger seconded the motion and the vote was as follows:

Final Vote:

Elbert Balch	Aye
Dennis Vaughn	Aye
Larry Anderson	Absent
Charles Nola	Aye
Cindi Sanderson	Aye
Cindy Sensenberger	Aye
Gerald Clark	Aye

Motion Carried**2. COA-2020-004, 17 College Street, New Shade Canopy**

Staff presented the request stating that Madison Elementary School wanted to install a replacement shade canopy in the playground area. The proposed material, color and photographs of the canopy frame were shown.

Jaime Golliver, representing the applicant, stated that there had previously been a canopy, but it had been removed. He noted the proposed blue color would match smaller canopies currently used on the site.

Mrs. Sensenberger inquired as to whether the canopy would stay up when school was out. Mr. Golliver replied that it would be up year-round.

Mrs. Sanderson asked if the School was using the same company as was used for the previous canopy. Mr. Golliver indicated that he thought it was a different company. Mr. Nola stated it was his understanding the previous company had been asked to make repairs to the former canopy but did not do so.

Mr. Nola asked if the material was a mesh fabric. Mr. Golliver replied that it was woven.

Motion: Cindi Sanderson moved to approve case number COA-2020-004, 17 College Street, as presented. Elbert Balch seconded the motion.

Mr. Balch inquired as to what wind load the canopy could withstand. Mr. Golliver did not have the specifics but noted that they will be using cables to secure the canopy.

Final Vote:

Elbert Balch	Aye
Dennis Vaughn	Aye
Larry Anderson	Absent
Charles Nola	Aye
Cindi Sanderson	Aye
Cindy Sensenberger	Aye
Gerald Clark	Aye

Motion Carried

3. COA-2020-003, 212 Main Street, Mural

Staff presented the request. The applicant is proposing a wall mural on the rear of a building that frames a patio for Old Black Bear Brewing Co. Staff reviewed the proposed mural, materials, colors and installation information submitted with the application and showed photos of the property. Staff noted the Commission had considered the mural request last year, but some of the mural elements and the proposed color palette have changed. That consideration was also prior to the Commission's adoption of mural guidelines.

Todd Seaton discussed the proposed paint type, indicating that Valspar offers an acrylic exterior paint suggested for murals and that it would adhere to cinder block very well. He noted a possibility of having the paint donated from Sherwin Williams, in which case they would still use a suitable exterior paint.

Mr. Nola stated that the epoxy clear coat that is proposed is often used in garages and works well.

Mrs. Sensenberger inquired as to why the color palette had been changed. Elizabeth Vaughn, art faculty member at James Clemens High School, replied that it was an artistic choice based on student input. Mrs. Sensenberger stated she liked the change and that the new colors wouldn't fade as fast.

Elizabeth Vaughn addressed the mural composition. She stated they were emphasizing the train and fields, in tribute to the history of Madison. Ms. Vaughn noted they had removed the baseball and rocket that were shown on last year's submittal based on student input. She reported the mural was a project for the art students, who are required to do a community project each Spring term.

Commission members discussed various aspects of the mural composition. Mr. Vaughn asked if the gears were a STEM image, and Elizabeth Vaughn stated they were. Mrs. Sanderson stated she thought the train was the only Madison-specific image in the mural. Elizabeth Vaughn called out the fields, the cotton in the train cars, and noted the fish and flowers were a nod to hobbies that many in Madison have. Mrs. Sanderson stated her preference for more of a Madison-specific mural but expressed that she thought the mural looked great. Mrs. Sensenberger suggested the number of fish be reduced. Mr. Clark indicated his agreement and suggested the insertion of cotton plants. Mr. Vaughn suggested cotton growing in one of the fields. Mrs. Sanderson asked about the inclusion of a river as there wasn't one in Madison. It was pointed out that Madison has several large streams and creeks such as Bradford Creek and Mill Creek. Mrs. Sanderson asked about the possibility of adding a building specific to Madison and noted that because the fields are hilly they wouldn't likely have cotton growing on them.

Elizabeth Vaughn noted they did not plan to paint the roll-up door. Todd Seaton stated that the mural needed to make sense if the door was opened or closed.

Discussion on mural content continued. Mr. Balch noted there used to be a cotton gin in Madison, which might be incorporated into the mural. Mr. Nola pointed out the wavy design of the fields and mural overall conveys a flow, which would be lost and take away from the mural if the fields were shown as flat. Mr. Vaughn asked for confirmation of the extent of the mural on the wall. Mrs. Sanderson asked about changing some of the

camellias to cotton plants. Elizabeth Vaughn stated they were trying to balance the color within the mural, which is why they kept more flowers, but they could trade out some of the flowers for cotton. Mrs. Sanderson expressed that most people wouldn't recognize the cotton in the train, restated her opinion that there was not enough on the history of Madison and that engineering is not Madison. Mrs. Sensenberger suggested changing the train boxcars to show the cotton better. Elizabeth Vaughn indicated that could be done. Mr. Nola revisited the idea of swapping cotton plants for a camellia or two. Mr. Vaughn stated that anything would be an improvement over the existing wall. Staff discussed the distance of the wall from the sidewalk, and noted that while it would be visible from the street, there are no buildings directly across the street.

Discussion ensued regarding mural maintenance. Mr. Nola inquired as to the plan for maintaining the wall. Elizabeth Vaughn replied it would be done by the James Clemens students each year. Mr. Vaughn asked about owner responsibility for the mural. Todd Seaton stated that he expected the property owners, Larry and Walt Anderson, would have an agreement with the School District. Mr. Nola pointed out that the application referred to maintaining the wall indefinitely but that the mural may be modified or removed at some point.

Discussion on mural content continued. David Roden, a James Clemens art student, spoke to the students' perspective of Madison. He stated that they experience Madison as a modern town, with not much emphasis on cotton. Todd Seaton stated that bear and fish used to be present in the area. Mr. Nola acknowledged the student's made a good point, and indicated the essence of cotton may not resonate with many younger people. He inquired as to whether there was another aspect of history that could be added. Mrs. Sensenberger and Mr. Vaughn discussed changes to the train cars.

Motion: Dennis Vaughn moved to approve case number COA-2020-003, 212 Main Street, with changes to one rail car to show two cotton bales. Elbert Balch seconded the motion.

Mrs. Sanderson inquired about reducing the number of fish and Mr. Clark asked about painting the roll-up door.

Amended Motion: Dennis Vaughn moved to amend his motion to approve case number COA-2020-003, 212 Main Street, with changes as follows: 1) at least one rail car to be a flatbed with cotton bale(s); 2) remove the fish on the right side of the mural; and 3) paint the roll up door to be a part of the mural. Elbert Balch seconded the motion.

Mr. Nola requested that the motion include that the mural be inspected annually and refurbished as required as coordinated by the property owner, with the word "indefinitely" stricken from the maintenance plans. Mr. Vaughn and Mr. Balch agreed.

Final Vote:

Elbert Balch	Aye
Dennis Vaughn	Aye
Larry Anderson	Absent
Charles Nola	Aye
Cindi Sanderson	Aye
Cindy Sensenberger	Aye
Gerald Clark	Aye

Motion Carried**Other Items for Discussion**

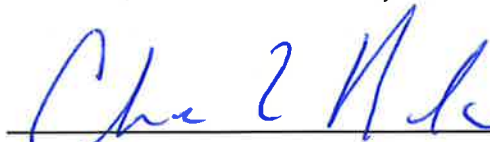
The Commission had a general discussion regarding property maintenance downtown and asked for a status on various items, including the sign at 20 Martin St, concrete in Buttermilk Alley and painting of house porch supports on Church St. Staff replied that the sign has been brought into conformance, the concrete will be painted until such time as it can be covered with asphalt, and Mr. Nola will follow up with the property owner regarding the porch.

Mr. Nola reported that the Roundhouse restoration project is moving forward, and plans will be submitted to the City and Commission for approval.

There being no further items for discussion, Chairman Nola closed the floor.

Adjournment

With no other business before the Commission, Chairman Nola adjourned the meeting at 6:58p.m.



Approved: Charles Nola, Chairman
Madison Station Historic Preservation Commission

Attest: Mary Beth Broeren, Board Secretary